

REMARKS

The Office Action has been received and carefully considered. The Office Action rejects claims 12-19, 21-24 and 59 under 35 U.S.C. § 101 as allegedly being directed to nonstatutory subject matter, and rejects claims 12-24 and 59 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as allegedly being indefinite. Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections. Reconsideration of claims 12-24 and 59 is respectfully requested based on the following remarks.

I. The Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 101 Are Moot

The rejections of claims 12-19, 21-24 and 59 under 35 U.S.C. § 101 are moot in view of the amendments to claims 12 and 59 submitted herewith.

II. The Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 112 Are Moot

The rejections of claims 12-19, 21-24 and 59 under 35 U.S.C. § 112 are moot in view of the amendments to claims 12 and 59 submitted herewith.

III. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance, and an early indication of the same is courteously solicited. The Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned by telephone at the below listed telephone number, in order to expedite resolution of any issues and to expedite passage of the present application to issue, if any comments, questions, or suggestions arise in connection with the present application.

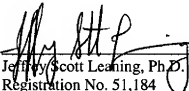
In the event that the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office requires a fees to enter this Reply or to maintain the present application pending, please charge or credit such variance to the undersigned's Deposit Account No. 50-0206.

Respectfully submitted,

HUNTON & WILLIAMS LLP

Dated: January 23, 2008

By:


Jeffrey Scott Leaning, Ph.D.
Registration No. 51,184

Hunton & Williams LLP
Intellectual Property Department
1900 K Street, N.W.
Suite 1200
Washington, DC 20006
(202) 955-1500 (telephone)
(202) 778-2201 (facsimile)

JSL:mia